

# Doings In The Sporting World

## NUMBERING BALL TOSSERS

Method Would Help Fans Pick Out Stars, but Scheme Is Not Liked by Players.

The old question of numbering the players on the field so that they can be picked out by reference to the score card has come up again. Some fans want this system introduced, claiming that it would add to the pleasure of witnessing a contest to be able to glance at a huge number on the back of a player and then refer to a card and pick out his name. There is no chance, though, of any such method of being introduced. It would be a bit of humiliation to the players to have to wear such pictures on their manly forms, and they are entirely unnecessary. To be sure, a fan who is not personally familiar with all the athletes sometimes has to ask his neighbor the identity of certain players, but that is a small matter.

With jockeys and bicycle riders the case is very different. The former ride in all kinds of weather conditions, and very often it is utterly impossible to recognize the boys in a big field unless they are provided with a large identification slip in the form of a number on their backs. The same is true of bicycle riders. But the ball player is different. His calling is a higher one than either of the others. His personality is more evident to the spectators than that of a jockey or a man humped over a machine. He is an individual, not a piece of machinery. He is not a driver of a horse or of an automobile, but an artist in his way. It would be as foolish to compel him to wear a huge and disfiguring number on his back as it would be to inflict the same necessity upon a star actor or singer.

It doesn't hurt any one to ask his neighbor a question as to a player or two if he is watching a game in a foreign city, where he is not familiar with all the athletes. Furthermore, the score cards give a very good line on the names of the players, and under the new rules in the National league the umpires are instructed to announce all shifts in the lineup before the game and also all changes in the batting order made during the contest. If the umpires do their full duty in this matter there will be no trouble for any spectator in recognizing the athletes even if he has never seen any of them before.

## SPORT MUSINGS

The thought that Luderous may succeed Frank Chance at first base for the Chicago Nationals is ludicrous.

Ball tossers who worry will not last as long in fast company as athletes of a phlegmatic temperament.

Who is the greatest baseball manager of all time—Clarke, Jennings, McGraw, Chance, Hanlon or Selee?

When Lajoie takes his place at bat he invariably draws a line in the dirt with the end of his club and then forgets all about it.

Without the ball players managers cannot make winning teams. Washington is doing no better this year than last.

What's the difference between a prizefight and a boxing match? A ticket to the Jeffries-Johnson bout will not be given for the best answer.

More than half the fifty dollar seats for the box fight have been sold. Did you get yours?

Nearly all the real boxers are billed to cavort on the Pacific slope in the near future. They'll have to change that word Pacific if it keeps up.

## SCOUTED FOR FIVE YEARS AND NEVER LANDED A PLAYER.

Barney Dreyfuss, the president of the Pittsburgh club, has a scout on the Pacific coast who has been drawing a salary for five years and has never secured a ball player for the Pirates. "He is the best scout in the country," says Dreyfuss, "and as long as he wants to stay on my payroll he can do it."

"He has never secured a ball player for us, but he has saved us a lot of money by warning us not to sign contracts with ball players he knew could not make good in the National league." Barney doesn't care whether the scout ever gets him a ball player as long as he touts him off some of the bad steers other men hand him about punk ball players.

George Van Haltren is the scout referred to. "Van Haltren has saved us a lot of money," said Dreyfuss. "He is an excellent judge of ball players. When we are tipped off to some player who is said to be a wonder George hikes out and takes a look at him. He has to look mighty fine before Van Haltren says anything good about him. He has always tipped us to keep off so far, and I don't think we have got any the worst of it."

## DRISCOLL READY FOR ATTELL

English Featherweight Champion and American to Clash in Frisco July 2.

Look for the featherweight pot to start a boiling. Jim Driscoll, who is fast, clever and the best featherweight in England, is here to meet Able Attehl in San Francisco July 2. No use of endeavoring to gild Jim's ability. He is a brilliant pug of the Pedlar Palmer type, with an added virtue, that of being a harder hitter than the man Terry McGovern whooped in a punch.

Driscoll can cut all sorts of pigeon wings in the ring. He is really the man to put against Attehl. It will be a pretty match, one of the kind old stagers used to say "worth going miles to see."

No man should pay his fee and expect to see punishment inflicted. Neither boy is in the slugger class. Bear in mind that well known fact, "science sacrifices savage swats." In other words, making a man clever takes away a major end of his punching power. The art of sparring which once stirred sport patrons to the echo will secure a demonstration. It will be a passage at arms, in English nomenclature. Americans haven't seen much sparring recently. They want fighting—won't stand for the fancy game.

Drucke Looks Good.

The New York Nationals' new pitcher, Drucke, is an engaging looking youngster in the box as has drifted into fast company in a long time.

## Wolgaest the Smallest Lightweight Champion.

Ad Wolgaest claims to be the smallest lightweight pugilistic champion the world has ever known, and it does not look as if his claim could be disputed.

Wolgaest stands but five feet four inches in height and can reduce to 132 or 130 pounds if necessary. He fights best, however, at 126 to 128 pounds. George Dixon, who fought many a lightweight and was twice beaten by Terry McGovern, was a quarter of an inch shorter than Wolgaest, but he was the featherweight champion.

## TEX RICKARD'S CAREER.

Promoter and Referee of Big Fight an Interesting Character.

Few characters in professional sports are more interesting than Tex Rickard, one of the promoters and the man who will referee the fight between Jeff and Johnson. Rickard is a gambler and is a home man too. He never plays for small stakes when he has the cash for big ones. And he has the knack of always bobbing up with coin when some discerning critic has assigned him to poverty.

In referring to him as a gambler one is not betraying a confidence. Rickard is not ashamed of it. He declared once that the only men who did not gamble were those who had departed or were ready to take the last flight of hurries in life's course. He has operated from Texas to Alaska and stopped off at many points on the way. A few years ago he had a gambling house in Nome, Alaska, beginning with the gambler's proverbial "shoestring" and coming out with a tannery." Then he headed for Goldfield, where there was mining camp fever of the speculative kind. In a hall of chance there he made another fortune, promoted mines as a side issue and finally came forward as the man behind the Gans-Nelson fight.

When the Jeffries-Johnson match was in the preliminary stages Rickard talked to Johnson. The big champion was willing to fight for Mr. Rickard, but he could not afford to accept anything but the highest bid. All the wisecracks knew that the bid for the fight would be around \$100,000, with various angles to the picture privileges. When bids were opened several letters were opened, each containing the cash or a certified check for \$5,000, as stipulated in the articles. Rickard made his bid from a seat near Johnson. Then he took a roll from his pocket and counted out twenty \$1,000 bills. Johnson's eyes gleamed before he said, "Let me handle those a minute, Mr. Rickard." That clinched Johnson as "Rickard's man" in the fight.

# Banner Season Predicted For Lawn Tennis Players

By TOMMY CLARK.

LAWN TENNIS players the country over are unanimous in predicting that the 1910 season gives promise of being the most interesting that the United States ever experienced. Fundamentally the remarkable increase in the championship tournaments schedule list affords the best indication as to the growth of the sport. There is the promise of a visit from the famous foreign players, an excellent prospect as to the Davis international cup team, drawing from the top class men, and the stimulation of another skirmish by the brilliant Californian wielders of the racket and cracks of the middle west upon eastern courts. Indeed, the program that the officials of the United States Lawn Tennis association mapped out is a most inspiring one.

To begin with, that wonderful pair of Californians, Maurice F. McLoughlin and Melville H. Long, are to visit the east this season to play through all of the important tournaments right up to the national championship at Newport. They learned the ways of the eastern stars last year, and they believe they can take the honors back to the Pacific coast.

The Californians undoubtedly have hard work before them. Anthony F. Wilding, the great Australian, is to play in this country. Possibly the English cup team of challengers may be at Newport also, for it is pretty certain at present that the team named by England will cross the Atlantic ocean again to try the ties for the blue ribbon of the courts.

So William A. Larned, the five time national champion in singles, and Frederick R. Alexander and Harold H. Hackett, the doubles holders, seem to be in for the trial of their lives. It is predicted that Larned is due for a defeat this year. The hope is that one of the younger Americans may save the title from the foreign invasion. William Clothier and Beals Wright, the former national champions, and Raymond Little, the internationalist, are also bound to figure in coming tournaments.

The figure westerners are to cut in national lawn tennis promises to set a new standard for the game. Since their achievement in arranging the clay court championship of the United States after the hottest controversy ever known in the sport they declare the tournament will surpass that at Newport in every respect. The tournament will be held on the courts of the Omaha Field club, Omaha, Neb. Probably a match will be arranged with the national winner at Newport to demonstrate the merits of the clay court and turf games. Nat Emerson and Harry Waldner, two of the great-



ALEXANDER

The Country's Greatest Lawn Tennis Stars, Who Will Figure In Coming Tournaments.



EMERSON



WRIGHT



LARNED

est tennis players in the middle west, are going to compete in eastern tournaments.

Western Men Make Gain.

"Without intending any criticism of the United States Lawn Tennis association for its share in lawn tennis history," said one of the expert players recently, "it is certain that its position toward the game will be put to the test during the 1910 season. From all sections of the country, and especially the west, where the newly instituted clay court championship of the United States has served as an inspiration, there is a marked increase

In the number of those seeking the pastime of the courts. Now the question that comes into the minds of some of us is: Is it to be shown that the laws and rules of the game mean something and are to be observed, or are they to stand as only something to be interpreted or violated according to

mark to predict that another year more power will be vested in representatives from the west and even the Pacific coast? The time has arrived for the governing body to face the conditions squarely and realize that no longer is lawn tennis the favorite game of a select few in the eastern states, but is a sport played ardently by upward of 4,000,000 of our population from Canada to the gulf and from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean."

Johnson Is Modest.

Considering the fact that Walter Johnson, the Washington Americans' star pitcher, from the time he has been

faults and tries to remedy them. He lives up to every rule of the club and does not object when he is given an upper berth while traveling, as do most of the players who meet with success. Pretty level headed young man is Johnson.

McAlier at Peace With the Umpire. Manager Jimmy McAlier of the Washington Americans is going to register a solemn vow upon the Holy Writ and the Encyclopedia Britannica that he will never again dispute the

decision of an umpire. Jimmy has been suspended the greater part of the season so far for fighting with umpires. Although Mac used to be an umpire himself, he hadn't been in the managerial position very long until he began to take his former side partners to account.

"I have warned all my men to cease taking exceptions to decisions, no matter how raw," said Jimmy, "and I am going to do the same myself. There is nothing in fighting an umpire but defeat."

## WHICH WINS, SPEED OR HEAD?

Cobb and Wagner Exponents of Different Styles—Both Successful.

According to the leading backstops of the major leagues, it is a question as to which is the greater base stealer, the man who can outguess a catcher or the man who can outspeed one. Hans Wagner of Pittsburgh and Ty Cobb of Detroit furnish excellent examples of these two distinct types of base runners. They are the masters of their respective styles.

More than half of the time Cobb will take a catcher by surprise, and his speed is so great that the most perfect throw in the world will not catch him. On the other hand, Wagner simply tries to outguess the catcher, and he does it on nearly every trial. The big Dutchman glides along the ground at a fast clip, and he slides so accurately that a perfect throw will miss him 20 per cent of the time. He uses his head entirely, while Cobb depends on his wonderful speed.

Cobb is of the nervous, fidgety variety of players, and he gallops away like a deer that has been jumped from a brush pile. The young Georgian pays little attention to the catcher. He simply makes up his mind when he is going to start, and he does not care whether the catcher knows it or not. He has absolute confidence in his speed and that wonderful, lightning-like slide that has put so many basemen out of business.

Cobb stole a great many more bases last season than did Wagner, but it was because he took a great many more chances. He was also in a great many more games. "But one thing you want to bear in mind," says Stotcher Archer of Chicago—"Wagner stole the bases when they counted. Unless it was important to the game at the time the Dutchman would not start. Cobb will start any time just for the pure devilry of it. He likes to see if he can beat the catcher's throw. He figures that with a good start he can beat anybody's throw to a base, and he is pretty nearly right."

"Still," continued Archer, "I fear

Wagner on a base much more than I would Cobb. I know Cobb's system pretty thoroughly, as I was on the Detroit team with him for a long time, though I never played against him. I had the time of my life, though, last year trying to handle that fellow Wagner."

## The Record For Bases on Balls.

A former New York pitcher—Billy George, a left hander—probably holds the National league record for wildness. George was with the Giants during the Morrie regime. In a game in New York on the morning of Memorial day, 1887, the southpaw passed seventeen of Adrian Constantine's son's Chicago White Stockings to first base, hit two men and uncoiled a pair of wild pitches. All this inaccuracy was crowded into a game of regulation length, the visitors winning it by a score of 12 to 11. Mark Baldwin, who afterward was with the New York club and who now is a doctor in Pittsburgh, pitched for the Illinois team.

After George drew the tinware degree from the Giants he went into the Western league, playing for a time in St. Paul under Charley Comiskey. George, however, gave up pitching when he was released by the local club and became a first baseman and outfielder.

## No Playing Managers in American League.

Outfielders and catchers predominate the managerial positions in the American league. There is but one former infielder in charge of a team, and that is Hugh Jennings of Detroit. O'Connor of St. Louis, McGuire of Cleveland, Stallings of New York and Mack of Philadelphia all were catchers, while Donovan of Boston, McAlier of Washington and Duffy of Chicago were outfielders, and out of the entire set there is not one playing manager.

## UNPADDED RINGS DANGEROUS

Fight Promoters Should Be Compelled to Surround Sport With More Safeguards.

More than 90 per cent of the fatalities in the ring have been caused by the unfortunate man's head striking an unpadded floor or one that was not sufficiently covered. Some managers have excused their laxity on the ground that too much padding made the boxers slow on their feet. This may be true, but it is open to argument. However, it is just as fair to one man as another. Two or three layers of rag carpet under a canvas mat would prevent a man being injured, or what would be still better, a thick corrugated rubber mat, which by its resiliency would reduce accidents to a minimum. When it is considered how many boxing contests are decided each week throughout the country and such few men hurt it ranks among one of the safest of sports. It, however, can be made absolutely safe.

## DIAMOND BINGLES

Zach Wheat, the Brooklyn Nationals' young outfielder, is one of the few players who are hitting better in the majors than they did in the minors.

Brown, Mathewson, Overhill and Adams, the greatest "winter" pitchers, have been knocked out of the box and beaten this season.

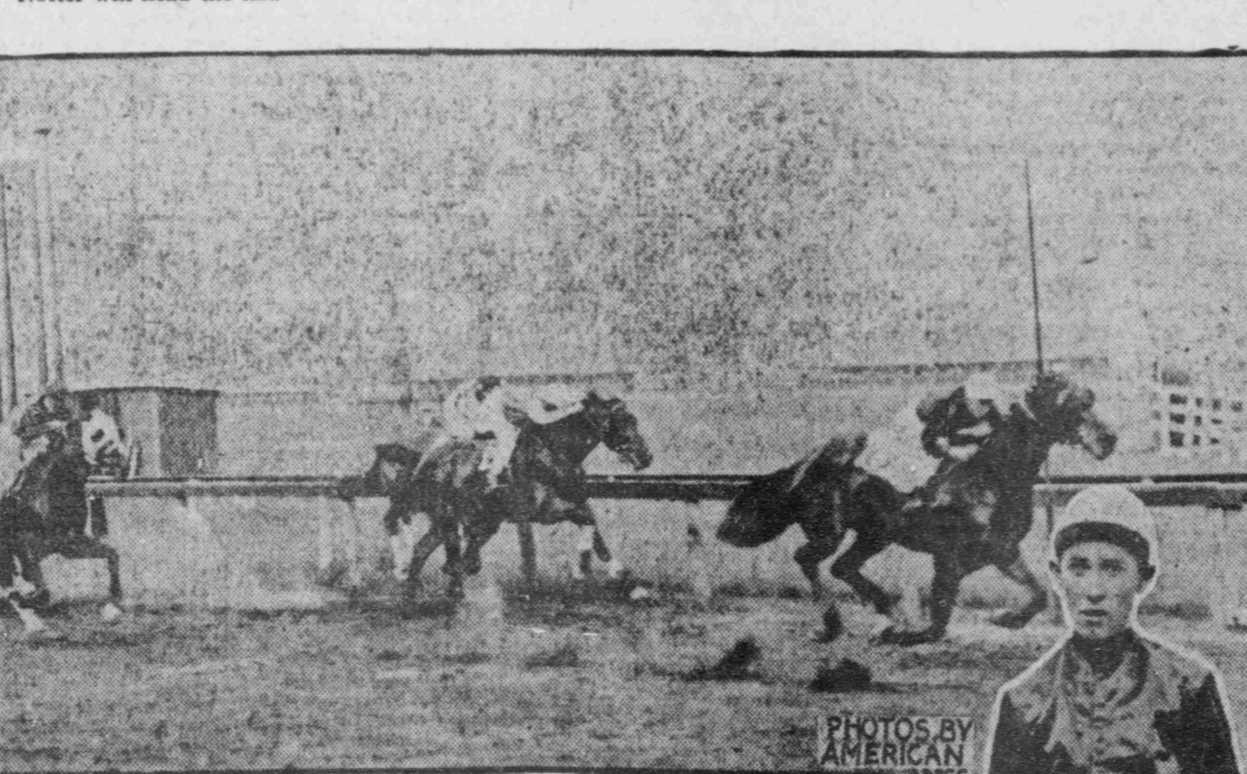
According to a Chicago scribe the other day: "James Sheppard made the admission that his first name was Samuel and that his full name, therefore, was Samuel James Tilden Sheppard. Samuel has sold out his steel stock and has started to corner the wool market."



NOTTER

## Leading Jockeys of the East and Scene In Recent Race

Owners of the different race tracks in the east are making every effort to place the thoroughbred horse racing game on a solid footing once more. Stake and overnight purses have been greatly increased since last season and new classics have been added. Judging by the daily attendance at the different tracks since the season opened, it looks as if the owners have succeeded to a certain extent. The illustration shows the finish of a recent race at Belmont park. This year there is a close race between Joe Notter and Guy Burns for the jockeyship honors of the east. At present Burns has it on his rival, but as the season lengthens the general opinion is that Notter will head the list.



PHOTOS BY AMERICAN PRESS ASSN.

## WHERE OLD STARS SHONE.

Baltimore and Cleveland Teams Furnished Many Brilliant Ball Players.

Back in the old days Baltimore and Cleveland had the greatest ball teams, and while the Forest City aggregation never had the good fortune to annex the pennant, yet this team was in the thickest of every fight and forced the old Orioles to set the hottest pace to finish in front.

It is therefore not strange that two such teams should have furnished many of the most brilliant baseball leaders the game can boast of today. For instance, there are McGraw, a recognized wizard at the art of handling a ball team, and Hughie Jennings and Joe Kelley, three of the men who were foremost during the days of the old Baltimore team. Then there are Wilbert Robinson and Bill Clarke of the same team, both of whom have

shown managerial ability. Jack Doyle was another who proved himself a leader.

The Cleveland team also furnished its share. Patsy Tebeau rose from the ranks. George Davis, who was one of his helpers, has managed with success in the majors. Chief Zimmer also had a trial. Ed McKean was a successful minor league manager when his major league days were over. Jimmy McAlier has held the reins of a ball team in hand for eight years, and Jack O'Connor, another of the old Clevelanders, is having his first trial this year at St. Louis.

It gives a fairly good idea of the strength of these old teams when most of the players on them have shown themselves clever enough to be real leaders in these days of up to date baseball.

There is no doubt that baseball has advanced, but questionable whether the players of today are as a class as intelligent as they were in those days.



BURNS

## Bill Delaney Tells How He Found Jeff.

I first saw Jeff at Colima when he was training Billy Gallagher to fight "Mysterious Billy" Smith. I liked his size immensely, and when I saw him pawing with that big left I took him away with me to Carson to help Jim Corbett work for the Fitzsimmons bout. I never handled a man who had no left. Jeff's was almost perfect. Corbett and Tommy Ryan whipped him into shape, and I want to say right here that when he quit the ring after beating Monroe he was just learning how to fight. When Jeff refused to fight Squires after we signed I passed him up.